## ORDER NUMBER 1 AND PROCLAMATION BY THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF LEANDER

**WHEREAS,** on March 17, 2020, the Mayor of the City of Leander issued a disaster declaration declaring a local state of disaster for the City of Leander due to COVID-19 posing an imminent threat of disaster in the City, which was continued by the City Council on March 19, 2020 until April 18, 2020;

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 continues to spread and to pose an increasing, imminent threat of disaster throughout Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends an "All of Community" approach focused on slowing the transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Williamson and Travis County Judges have issued stay at home orders that restrict the movement of persons and limiting the operation of businesses in the counties, except to perform certain essential activities or to perform work in or obtain service from an Essential Business, Essential Government Functions or service, or in Essential Critical Infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, it is reasonable and necessary to relax the City's sign regulations, as stated herein, to advertise the location of the Essential Businesses to cope with the economic impact of the disaster and to ensure that members of the community are more easily able to identify and locate which businesses remain open during the term of the stay at home orders; and

WHEREAS, the City of Leander is located in both Williamson and Travis Counties;

**WHEREAS,** the Williamson County Order defines both Essential Business and Essential Critical Infrastructure to include residential, transportation, and commercial construction; and

WHEREAS, the Travis County Order defines Critical Infrastructure to include all "private facilities and assets...and other functions and sectors vital to the security, governance, public health, safety, and economic continuity of Travis County" and the "include but not [be] limited to...construction"; and

WHEREAS, other cities within Travis County have issued stay at home orders on the same date or after the Travis County Order that include residential and commercial construction in the category of Essential Businesses or Essential Critical Infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, it is reasonable and necessary and consistent with the actions of other municipalities subject to the Travis County Order to clarify that Critical Infrastructure includes residential and commercial construction within the City of Leander;

NOW THEREFORE, I, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF LEANDER, TEXAS, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE

## CHAPTER 418 AND THE CITY CHARTER HEREBY FIND, ORDER, AND PROCLAIM THAT:

- **Section 1.** The findings and recitations set out in the preamble to this Order are found to be true and correct and they are hereby adopted and made a part hereof for all purposes.
- **Section 2.** (a) Effective as of 7:00 p.m. on March 27, 2020, and continuing until April 18, 2020. 10:00 p.m., it hereby ORDERED that:
  - 1. Signs advertising an Essential Business shall be permitted in the right-of-way (ROW) or on private property as long as they meet the following conditions:
    - a. Signs may only be located in the ROW adjacent to the property where the business is located or on the property where the business is located.
    - b. Sign height may not exceed three (3') feet.
    - c. Sign posts shall be temporary and may not be placed more than 18" in the ground.
    - d. Signs may not block the sidewalk, roadway, or view of the roadway.
    - e. Signs shall be placed a minimum of five (5') feet from any street pavement.
    - f. For signs located on private property, written permission of the private property owner must be provided.
    - g. Signs must be removed at the termination of the state of disaster period.
    - h. A Sign Permit shall not be required for this type of signage for the term of this order.
  - 2. An Essential Business, for businesses located in Travis County, shall have the meaning set forth in County Judge Order No. 2020-5 dated March 24, 2020, as amended. An Essential Business, for businesses located in Williamson County, shall have the meaning set forth in the Order of County Judge of Williamson County, Texas for Stay Home Stay Safe dated March 24, 2020, as amended.
  - 3. Critical Infrastructure includes residential and commercial construction.
- **Section 3.** The Leander Police Department, the Fire Marshal, and other peace officer are authorized to enforce this Order. It is a violation for a person to posts a sign for an Essential Business in violation of this Order. A violation of this Order is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000 for each day that the violation continues. The City's sign regulations are temporarily modified as provided herein for the duration of the state of disaster period. Except as temporarily modified herein, the City's sign regulations shall remain in full force and effect.
- **Section 4.** The City will post this Order on its website and Order shall be widely advertised to help accomplish the public health and safety objectives of the City of Leander.
- **Section 5.** If any subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Order or any application of it to any person, structure, gathering, or circumstance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, then such decision will not affect the validity.

Ordered and proclaimed to be effective this the 27 day of March, 2020, in the City of Leander, Texas.

Troy Hill, Mayor City of Leander, Texas

Attest:

Dara Crabtree, City Secretary